

22817

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE TELEGRAM

MFG. 11-70

831J

SECRET/ARAT DISSEM

Approved For Release 2002/01/22 : CIA-RDP73B00296R000200040049-3

FILE REF.

CS/RF, DDP, SDO, D/OPIC, D/OPS, D/ONE, D/NIC  
CABLE SEC. LIMDIS - BACKGROUND USE ONLY

N/CEN 010341 C/AVIA C/FE-2

Added: EX/NA, NIPE, COLE, RE CS/RF  
ACI 0/ACI

SECRET

HCM561

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12

ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-20 EA-18 H-01 RSR-01 RSC-01 L-02 INR-07  
CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 /064 W

098184

P 100915Z MAY 71  
FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3742  
INFO SECDEF  
CINCPAC  
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMEMBASSY SAIGON  
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE  
COMUSMACV

S E C R E T PHNOM PENH 2234

LIMDIS

SUBJECT: STAFFDEL MOOSE

REF: STATE 065953

1. RICHARD MOOSE OF SFRC STAFF SPENT THREE DAYS IN PHNOM PENH MAY 6-9. IN ADDITION TO MEETINGS WITH PRINCIPAL MEMBERS OF MISSION HE HAD CONVERSATIONS WITH VARIOUS KHMER, INCLUDING NEW FIRST VICE PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS IN TAM, FOREIGN MINISTER KOUN WICK, OUTGOING MINISTER OF PIT UM SIM, GENERALS SAK SUTSAKHAN AND DREY SAMN, NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DEPUTY HOEUR LAY INN, DIRECTOR ELECTRICITY CAMBODGE CHHUT CHHOEUR.

2. DECISION TO VISIT PHNOM PENH, WHICH WAS NOT ON ORIGINAL ITINERARY, WAS APPARENTLY PROMPTED BY COMMITTEE INTEREST IN KHMER POLITICAL CRISIS, WHICH WAS RESOLVED BY INVESTITURE OF NEW GOVERNMENT ON DAY MOOSE ARRIVED. HE TOLD AMBASSADOR BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE THAT KHMER WITH WHOM HE HAD TALKED WERE GENERALLY SATISFIED WITH OUTCOME, HAD CONFIRMED TO HIM ABSENCE OF EXTERNAL INTERVENTION (INCLUDING AMERICAN) DURING CONSULTATIONS, AND NOW LOOKED FORWARD TO A PERIOD OF RELATIVE STABILITY LEADING TO

SECRET

State Dept. review completed

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#008, EXHIBIT added at 0805Z, 11 May 1971 S. 43/11

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POSSIBLE ELECTIONS IN THE AUTUMN. WE EXPRESSED TO HIM VIEW THAT  
PRESENT GOVERNMENT IS POTENTIALLY STRONGER THAN ITS PREDECESSOR BUT  
NOTED ALSO THAT IT FACES DIFFICULT ECONOMIC DECISIONS ON PRICES  
AND WAGES WHICH COULD AFFECT ITS POPULARITY. IN GENERAL, WE  
BELIEVED SIRIK MATAK WOULD CONTINUE TO TAKE A REALISTIC VIEW OF  
BOTH ECONOMIC AND MILITARY AFFAIRS AND WE THOUGHT HE HAD

ASSEMBLED A WORKMANLIKE GROUP TO ASSIST HIM.

3. HE ASKED FOR CURRENT STAFFING PATTERN OF MISSION, WHICH WE  
GAVE HIM, NOTING THAT PERMANENT POSITIONS STILL LESS THAN ONE  
HUNDRED. AMBASSADOR INFORMED HIM THAT MODEST AUGMENTATION OF  
MEDIC FORWARD ELEMENT (SEVEN POSITIONS) AND ECONOMIC STAFF  
(ABOUT SAME NUMBER) ARE PRESENTLY CONTEMPLATED BOTH FOR EFFECTIVE  
IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING OF AID PROGRAMS. AMBASSADOR  
SIMULTANEOUSLY RESTATED POLICY OF KEEPING STAFF AS SLIM AS  
POSSIBLE, WITH MAXIMUM RELIANCE ON TDY PERSONNEL. MOOSE COMMENTED  
THAT HE BELIEVES CONGRESS WOULD GENERALLY EQUATE ANY SIGNIFICANTLY  
ENLARGED PRESENCE WITH AN ENLARGED COMMITMENT. HE WAS NOT  
NEGATIVE, HOWEVER, ABOUT MODEST INCREASES UNDER DISCUSSION.

4. HE WAS OF COURSE INTERESTED IN MILITARY SITUATION, MAP, AND  
MEDIC ACTIVITIES AND RECEIVED DETAILED AND CANDID BRIEFINGS ON  
ALL OF THESE. HE SEEMED TO ACCEPT AT FACE VALUE OUR EFFORTS TO  
AVOID ADVISORY ROLES FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL IN COUNTRY. HE  
INQUIRED CONCERNING KHMER-LAO MILITARY RELATIONS, DISCUSSION OF  
WHICH IS BEING REPORTED SEP RATELY. HE ALSO ASKED FOR STATISTICS OF  
USAF SORTIES AND OPERATIONS IN CAMBODIA. HE WAS REFERRED TO  
COMUSMACV FOR STATISTICS. WE EMPHASIZED THAT KHMER MILITARY  
PARTICIPATE DIRECTLY IN VALIDATION OF USAF OPERATIONS IN AREAS  
UNDER THEIR CONTROL. AS FOLLOW-UP TO QUESTION ASKED DURING PREVIOUS  
VISIT, DATT STRESSED THAT BECAUSE OF INCREASED TRAVEL EMBASSY NOW  
CONSIDERABLY MORE CONFIDENT OF VALIDITY OF OUR MILITARY  
OBSERVATIONS.

5. HE ASKED ABOUT PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE OPERATIONS. WE SAID  
THAT ABOUT \$300,000 OF MATERIAL SUPPORT TO FANK AND OTHER KHMER  
ORGANIZATIONS (LEAFLET, POSTER, CALENDAR, PAMPHLET, SCHOOL KIT  
AND COMPARABLE PRODUCTION) WILL BE FIN NCED OUT OF M P FUNDS NEXT  
FISCAL YEAR. WE ADDED THAT SIMILAR SUPPORT HAD BEEN MADE  
AVAILABLE THIS YEAR BY CINCPAC FROM OTHER APPROPRIATIONS. WE  
POINTED OUT THAT IN-COUNTRY LIAISON WITH THE KHMER ON QUESTIONS

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OF PSYCHOLOGICAL OPERATIONS IS PERFORMED BY OUR SMALL TWO-MAN  
PRESS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS UNIT.

6. HE WAS BRIEFED ON ECONOMY AND ON STATUS OF OUR SUPPORTING  
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. WE INFORMED HIM THAT IMPORTANT IMF  
RECOMMENDATIONS POTENTIALLY AFFECTING FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATE AND  
FOREIGN EXCHANGESYSTEM ARE UNDER STUDY BY GKR AND THAT THEY  
COULD ALSO HAVE EVENTUAL IMPACT ON FORM OF OUR ASSISTANCE. HE  
DID NOT PRESS FOR DETAILS.

7. IT APPEARS TO US THAT MOOSE WAS PRIMARILY INTERESTED, APART  
FROM HIS IMMEDIATE CONCERN OVER POLITICAL SITUATION, IN UPDATING  
INFORMATION GATHERED DURING STAFFDEL'S LAST VISIT IN DECEMBER.  
HIS CONTACTS WITH US WERE FRIENDLY AND OPEN AND THERE WERE NO  
POINTS OF FRICTION.

SWANK.

SECRET